



KING COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE RESOURCE BOOKLET

**A GUIDEBOOK TO HELP YOUR FAMILY
NAVIGATE THE JUVENILE JUSTICE
SYSTEM**

CREDITS

This booklet was developed with the input and oversight of parents, youth, juvenile court and mental health professionals. These partners included the members of the Juvenile Justice 101 oversight committee including (in no particular order), Bruce Knutson, Susan Waild, Mark Wirschem, Teddi Edington, Steve Gustaveson, Rick Lichtenstadter, Tamara Johnson, Elinor Cromwell, George Yeannakis, Susan McLaughlin, Steve Williams, Jeanette Barnes, Wyman Yip, Jacquelyn Arrington, Marcus Stubblefield, Kathy Santucci, Kelly DePhelps, Pam Jones, Sandy Barnes, Andrea Wallace, Karen Trayler, Lee Davis, Rosa Peralta, Marcy Pareira, Sashya Clark, Jeanie Nelson, and Kelly Warner-King. In addition, other family partners and advocates in Washington State informed this work through their contributions to family advocacy, including Carolyn Cox, Sharon Gentry, Nelson Rancon, Curtis Dennis, Ann Varpness, Ron Jaeger, Janice Schutz, Cathy Clem, Gary Streile and Marie Norton-Olsen .

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to juvenile court

The juvenile court has a three-fold purpose to

- rehabilitate
- hold youth accountable
- ensure public safety

Every person involved in the court process has a specific job to perform in order to make sure these three purposes are accomplished. While the goal of the process is to achieve the best outcome for the youth and the community, the process can be confusing and sometimes frustrating for families.

Purpose of this book

To help reduce some of the confusion for families, we have created this booklet. This booklet will guide your family through the people and process of the court as well as inform you about available helpful resources. It was developed with the input of parents and youth who have been through the court process before and is specifically designed to provide you the critical information you'll need to support you in this experience. This booklet is designed to be *interactive*. There are numerous places for you to write down notes and appointments. We have included this based on feedback from other parents and youth about what they would find useful in a booklet.

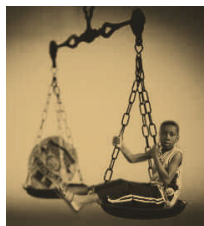
What this book won't discuss in depth

This booklet is designed to guide you through the juvenile court process. It is important to remember that not all justice-involved youth go through the formal juvenile court. Some youth will be diverted from a formal court process, other youth may be referred to a different type of court (like drug court) and some youth may go through an adult court. We will not discuss these other pathways in depth.

Additionally, we will not discuss At Risk Youth petitions. This is a process where a family asks for court assistance in helping to control their child, but there are no criminal charges involved and the family can end the process whenever they desire. You will discuss with the youth's attorney what pathway is best for the youth.

Parent

"I think the court system as it stands right now is not perfect. . . but I really think they bend over backwards to make sure it's a successful outcome for the child."



JUVENILE COURT

History of juvenile court

Juvenile courts in the United States were first established in the late nineteenth century as reformers recognized that youth were still developing in maturity and should be given an opportunity to learn from their mistakes. Prior to juvenile courts, youth who had broken the law were tried in adult courts according to the laws governing adult behavior. Initially, juvenile courts were not considered criminal courts. However, in 1967, the Supreme Court decision *In Re Gault* gave minors the same legal protections for due process in juvenile court, which had the effect of ensuring that youth rights were protected.

Juvenile courts are still different than adult courts because:

- guilt is decided by a judge, not by a jury and
- one of the purposes of the court is to rehabilitate youth.



Youth rights

It is very important to understand that parents do not have rights in the juvenile court process. As the identified respondent (defendant), the youth is the only person who has rights under the law. These rights include:

Right to be notified of charges: The youth needs to know what they are being charged with. They will be informed of their charges at arraignment.

Right to have legal representation: The youth will be assigned a defense attorney to represent them in court, go over the case with them, and advise them of their options.

Right to cross-examine witnesses: If the youth goes to a trial/fact finding hearing (which is uncommon), the defense attorney may question witnesses brought by the prosecution.

Right against self-incrimination: Youth may not be required to testify against themselves.

Parent's role

While the parents do not have legal rights in the juvenile court process, *they are still a critical part of the process*. Parents provide information to the defense attorney and intake probation counselor to help the judge decide what kinds of treatments and consequences to order for the youth. The parent is also an important source of support for their child during this process and is encouraged to attend court hearings.

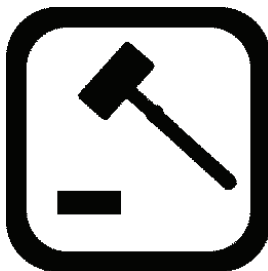
JUVENILE COURT

Sealing Records

In Washington State, all juvenile court matters are public record. This means that even charges filed against the youth are available to the public. When a youth is found guilty in a juvenile court it is called adjudication, which is technically not a criminal conviction. However, adjudication may impact the youth's ability to find employment. A youth can seal their records by filing a request with the court if they are eligible based on criminal history. If you'd like more information about sealing records contact

Street Youth Legal Advocates of Washington (SYLAW) (206-659-5029, <http://sylaw.org>)

TeamChild offices in the counties of King, Spokane, Benton-Franklin, Snohomish, and Pierce. (206-322-2444, www.teamchild.org).



WHO YOU WILL MEET AT COURT

Everyone involved in juvenile court plays an important role in achieving the three-fold mission of the court: to rehabilitate, hold youth accountable and ensure public safety. We will discuss the role of each of these players as well as focus on what you need to know about working effectively with these individuals.

Defense Attorney

Youth's Attorney name _____

Youth's Attorney phone _____

The defense attorney's role is to represent the youth in court, make sure the youth's rights are upheld and advise the youth about what options are available to resolve their case. Although there are times when the youth may meet with the attorney before the first hearing, the youth may meet the attorney for the first time in the court waiting room before the youth's first hearing. The attorney will typically speak to the youth privately at some point. Because defense attorneys represent the youth, the defense attorney may or may not explain the court process to the parents. Most, however, will be willing to communicate what they can as long as it is not legally confidential information and as long as it is otherwise appropriate to do so.

Parent

"I had a great relationship with my son's attorney . . . and that goes with communication, that's a two-way street. Of course, if you're not going to show no interest, they're not going to show no interest"

WHO YOU WILL MEET AT COURT

Prosecuting Attorney

The prosecuting attorney's role is to make sure that public safety is protected. They will do this by filing charges against the youth and recommending what they think are appropriate consequences. The prosecuting attorney will often be a different individual in each hearing. The youth and family will not usually have any contact with the prosecuting attorney outside of court, although the defense attorney and prosecuting attorney may consult with each other about appropriate resolution for the youth's case. To contact: **King County Prosecutor's Office Juvenile Section (206-296-9025)**.

Judge

The judge presides over the court hearings to make sure that proper legal procedure is observed, and also makes decision around the outcomes of the case. The judge makes decisions about whether the youth will stay in detention, whether the youth is guilty or not guilty of the crime charged, and what the youth is ordered to do. The youth and parents will not have contact with the judge outside of the court hearings. Any information you would like to give to the judge should be given to the intake probation counselor, who summarizes information about the youth and makes recommendations to the judge about treatment options.

WHO YOU WILL MEET AT COURT

Intake Probation Counselor

Name of youth's Intake Probation Counselor:

Phone number: _____

The Intake Probation Counselor works for the court, not the judge or the attorney. **All youth who go through the juvenile court process will be assigned an intake probation counselor, even if they are not placed on probation.** The Intake Probation Counselor provides information about the court process, as well as gather information about the youth's history, strengths and needs. This information will be shared with the judge and the Intake Probation Counselor will make recommendations to the judge about whether the youth may benefit from one of the court treatment programs. The Intake Probation Counselor is the best person for the parent to contact with questions about the court process.

Supervision Juvenile Probation Counselor

Name of youth's Supervision JPC:

Phone of youth's Supervision JPC: _____

The Supervision Juvenile Probation Counselor (JPC) works with a youth **if they are put on probation.** The JPC will meet with the youth and family at least once a month to check in on progress and make sure the youth is complying with the conditions of his/her probation. Parents are strongly encouraged to be present at these meetings and to tell the JPC about the youth's positive and troubling behaviors. These conversations are not confidential and can be used to file new charges or probation modifications.

WHO YOU WILL MEET AT COURT

We provide a template starting on the next page that describes the type of information that is helpful to share with the JPC. If the youth is not in compliance with their conditions of probation, as outlined in the court order, then the JPC may consider scheduling a modification hearing before the judge. However, it is better for all parties if the matter can be resolved without having to bring the youth back into court. Parents are encouraged to work collaboratively with the JPC to find effective ways to encourage the youth to behave in a positive way.

Parent

"I think it is critical that the parent is present when the child goes to meet with their juvenile probation officer"

Other Court Staff

Court Services: Court services staff manage day to day operations. You will check in at the information desk with a court services employee when you arrive at court.

Court Runner: The court runner escorts youth to and from detention for court hearings.

Court Clerk: The court clerk is present at the hearings and records the hearing proceedings.

WHAT INFO TO PROVIDE TO COURT

Below is a list of suggestions for what types of helpful information a parent can provide about the youth during the court process. We recommend that you write out or print this information and give a copy to the intake probation counselor. The intake probation counselor will ask the parent and the youth many of these same questions, so having the answers ready beforehand can make this process go more quickly.

- ◆ What kind of treatment, consequences or outcomes do you think would be helpful for the youth to succeed?
- ◆ What have you found to be a successful motivator for the youth?

Family History

- ◆ Who is the youth currently living with?
- ◆ How is the youth's relationship with family members? Does he/she have a strong relationship with anyone in particular?
- ◆ Has the youth ever run away from home? How many times?
- ◆ Has your family been involved in any family treatment or counseling programs in the past?
- ◆ How would you describe your relationship with the youth?
- ◆ Would you be interested in participating in a family-based treatment program focused on the youth's behavior?

Are there any subjects or school activities that youth has succeeded in? What are her/his interests and strengths?

School History

- ◆ Does the youth attend school regularly? If not, when did he/she start attending less regularly?

WHAT INFO TO PROVIDE TO COURT

- ◆ Are there any subjects or school activities that youth has succeeded in? What are her/his interests and strengths?

Medical History

- ◆ Has the youth had any medical issues that have made attending school and participating in other activities difficult?
- ◆ If the youth is currently using illegal substances (alcohol, drugs) when did he/she start using? When did you start to notice a change in their behavior?

Mental Health History

- ◆ Has the youth been diagnosed with a mental health issue?
- ◆ Is the youth currently receiving treatment for a mental health issue? Has the youth received treatment in the past?
- ◆ Is the youth currently on any medications for a mental health issue? If yes, what are they?

Relationships

- ◆ Do you feel that the youth's friends are a bad influence for him/her?
- ◆ Does the youth have any friends that are a good influence?

Supports and Strengths

- ◆ Who are the positive people in the youth's life that he/she looks up to?
- ◆ Is the youth involved in any community, school or church groups that provide a positive outlet for him/her?
- ◆ What is the youth good at?

DETENTION

Detention is a locked facility in which some youth may be detained when they are either waiting for their court hearings or serving out a sentence. Going into detention for the first time can be a scary experience for both youth and parents when they do not know what to expect. It is helpful to know that juvenile detention centers are required to abide by legal standards that outline requirements for safety, space, health and recreation. The list below outlines some of the programs, facilities and rules of detention.

Visiting Hours: Parents/legal guardians can visit up to three times a week. Siblings under the age of eight are also allowed. Other visitors must be requested by the Probation Counselor and approved by the Detention Supervisor. Visitation hours are 3:30pm-9:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am to 9:00pm on weekends and holidays (except for 2:30-3:30pm).

Telephone: Youth are allowed to make phone calls with staff approval. Phone calls are collect and are \$2.10 (long distance \$2.50 and .08 to .10 per minute plus applicable taxes). The call will automatically disconnect after 15 minutes. Prepaid minutes can also be purchased through Custom Teleconnect Inc. (CTI)

Mail: Youth may receive and send mail outside of detention. Incoming mail will be checked for contraband (items not allowed in detention). Mail the youth cannot keep in detention will be placed in their property. The Detention address for mailing the youth is:

**Juvenile Detention
Youth's name
1211 East Alder
Seattle, WA 98122**

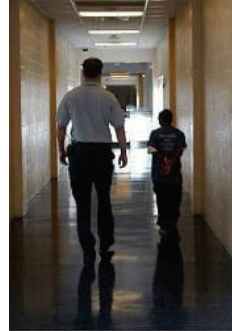
Health Services: The King County Detention Center has a Health Clinic with a fulltime nurse who will see the youth if they are injured or are sick. The youth may request to speak to a nurse or mental health staff at any time. Health and mental health information is private and can only be shared under very strict guidelines.

DETENTION

Medication for youth needs to be brought in a regular labeled prescription bottle and the prescription must be current. .

Youth in detention will receive:

- ◆ Three meals a day and an evening snack.
- ◆ Clean clothing.
- ◆ Personal hygiene items.
- ◆ Opportunities for daily exercise.
- ◆ Daily education program.
- ◆ Opportunity for daily shower and access to a toilet and water fountain as needed.
- ◆ Opportunity to attend religious services of their choice.



In order to reduce the number of youth in detention, but still teach youth accountability, the detention facility runs an **alternative to secure detention program (ASD)**. In this program, youth are assigned by a judge to one of a few different options. These options include the following:

Electronic Monitoring: A form of detention. Youth will be assigned an ankle monitor that will be programmed to transmit a signal if the youth moves outside of a restricted boundary.

Group Care: A form of detention. 24 hour, secure residential care in a group home setting. Movement outside of the facility is monitored by staff.

Day Reporting: An educational program in which youth received more individualized instruction in a small classroom setting.

Evening Reporting: An afterschool program in which youth receive instruction and services in life skills.

Weekend Reporting: A program in which youth attend two full weekend days of classes at the juvenile facility. This is typically used as a sanction for probation violations or in lieu of secure detention in a disposition.

COURT PROCESS

The juvenile court process can take a few weeks to a few months. There are multiple hearings to attend, and depending on scheduling and other factors, these may happen weeks apart.

Also, once a family arrives at court for their hearing date, they may wait several hours before

being called into court. Everyone will have a unique experience;

sometimes two or more of these hearings will happen during the

same court appearance. Other times, each hearing will be a different court appearance. Also,

some of the hearings happen in a courtroom and some will occur in the waiting room. The following pages summarize the purpose of the different types of hearings you may experience. We have also included a space for you write notes and questions you may have during the hearing, as well as when the next court date is scheduled. Because a court hearing can move very quickly, it is a good idea to write down your questions so you can remember to ask the defense attorney or intake probation counselor about them at a later time.



Tips for attending court hearings

Dress: Appropriate dress for the court avoids gang-related colors or accessories, clothing that promotes drug or alcohol use, pajamas, cut offs or other overly casual clothing, or inappropriately revealing clothing. While the judges make decisions based on the merits of the case, how a youth and parent are dressed can influence their opinions. Youth in detention will attend hearings dressed in standard issue detention clothing.

Weapons: Weapons are prohibited in court, including guns, knives and other weapon-like materials. All persons entering the court are required to go through a metal detector.

Behavior: Persons in the court area are asked to refrain from engaging in behaviors that would be annoying to those around them or could cause damage to the building. This includes cussing, yelling, spitting, playing loud music, and writing on or being reckless with furniture and other facilities. Security staff is onsite at the court to enforce these rules.

Types of court hearings

The following pages summarize the kinds of hearings you may attend. We have included space so you can take notes as well as put in the dates of the next hearing.

The hearings that the youth may attend are called:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| ◆ First appearance | ◆ Restitution |
| ◆ Second appearance | ◆ Modification |
| ◆ Arraignment | ◆ Detention Review |
| ◆ Case Setting | ◆ Omnibus |
| ◆ Trial/Fact Finding Hearing | ◆ Competency |
| ◆ Disposition/Plea Hearing | ◆ Capacity |

FIRST APPEARANCE

Purpose: This hearing occurs the next court day after the youth is brought into detention on suspicion that a crime has been committed.

Outcome: First, the judge decides whether there is enough information for the court to assert authority over the youth. If the judge finds this to be the case, the judge will decide either to hold the youth in detention or require the youth to follow court-ordered rules if released. The prosecutor has a deadline in which to file charges (the "filing deadline") while the court has this authority over the youth.

SECOND APPEARANCE

Purpose: At the time of a first appearance hearing, a second appearance is scheduled to be held if charges are filed.

NOTES/QUESTIONS:

NEXT HEARING DATE _____

COURT PROCESS

ARRAIGNMENT

Purpose: Arraignment is when the youth is formally informed of the charges being brought against them. This may be done either in court or out of court, depending on the seriousness of the charge. Standard practice is for the youth to plead "not guilty." This gives the youth and defense attorney time to talk before the youth decides how he or she wants to resolve the case.

For minor offenses, arraignment will occur in the court lobby with the youth and attorney rather than in a courtroom in front of a judge.

Outcome: The next hearing, a case setting, will be scheduled.

NOTES/QUESTIONS:

NEXT HEARING DATE _____

CASE SETTING

Purpose: The case setting hearing is a meeting between the youth and the defense attorney that occurs in the court lobby. The attorney will most likely speak to the youth alone during some portion of the meeting. The purpose of this meeting is for the youth and the defense attorney to discuss the case and for the defense attorney to advise the youth about options available and assist the youth in deciding which option to take.

Outcome: The youth, with the attorney's help, will decide whether to plead guilty, schedule a trial, or postpone the hearing for more preparation. Depending on this decision, the defense attorney will schedule a trial date, a new case setting date or a plea date.

NOTES/QUESTIONS:

NEXT HEARING DATE _____

COURT PROCESS

TRIAL/ FACT FINDING HEARING

Purpose: The Fact Finding Hearing/Trial is the hearing in which a judge decides whether the youth is guilty or not guilty. The youth cannot have a conviction for the crime unless the judge finds him or her guilty. For the judge to find the youth guilty, the prosecutor must provide enough evidence to show beyond a reasonable doubt that the youth is guilty of the crime. There are no juries in juvenile court, the outcome is decided by the judge.

Outcome: The judge will decide whether the youth is guilty or not guilty. If found guilty, the next hearing will be a disposition hearing.

NOTES/QUESTIONS:

NEXT HEARING DATE _____

DISPOSITION

Purpose: At this hearing, the judge hears the details of the youth's case and will order a set of requirements for the youth to follow called a disposition order.

Outcome: The disposition order outlines what the youth must do to successfully complete the juvenile justice process. The judge considers what will help the youth learn accountability, what will keep the community safe and what will assist the youth's rehabilitation. Disposition orders can include probation, counseling, community service, restitution (paying back money), and detention time. Some of these options are explained in more detail in the probation section of the handbook as well as the glossary. If the disposition order is not followed, the youth may be brought back before the judge who may order further consequences. The youth is given a copy of the disposition order after the disposition hearing.

NOTES/QUESTIONS:

NEXT HEARING DATE _____

COURT PROCESS

ADDITIONAL HEARINGS

Detention Review

A detention review is held any time a party wants to change the detention status of a youth, i.e.: to ask for release if the youth is in detention, to ask for a youth to be detained, or to ask that a detained youth be placed on a less restrictive option.

Restitution Hearing

When a youth is ordered to pay restitution (paying money back for an offense committed), a restitution hearing may be scheduled for the judge to determine the appropriate amount of restitution to be paid.

Modification Hearing (Probation hearing)

A modification hearing occurs when a probation counselor requests that a youth who is on probation be seen again by the judge. This typically occurs because the youth has violated one or more conditions of probation and the probation counselor is recommending that the youth be sanctioned (punished) or that the disposition order be modified in some way.

Parent

"The court process, it is a process. Be prepared to spend several hours, which I didn't really prepare for the first couple times ."

Omnibus hearing: This hearing is used to prepare for the fact-finding trial. It is usually held in the week before the week of trial. At this hearing, the prosecutor and defense attorney inform the court of the status of trial preparation. The judge may also resolve outstanding issues that need to be decided before the trial can go forward. If there is more to be done for the parties to be ready for trial, this is often the time when the court will decide whether the trial should be continued (postponed). If the parties are ready for trial, they will provide information the court will need to conduct the trial appropriately.

Competency: A hearing in which the judge decides whether the juvenile is "competent" to be tried. A juvenile cannot be tried if he or she is not competent. To be competent, the juvenile must be able to understand the court process and be able to assist the attorney in his or her defense. If the youth is not able to accomplish these functions because of a mental condition, the youth cannot stand trial.

Capacity: A hearing in which the judge decides whether the juvenile had the "capacity" to have committed the crime charged at the time it was claimed to have happened. The law assumes that a youth under the age of 12 did not have the capacity, in other words, was not capable, of committing a crime. For a youth of this age to be tried for a crime, the state must show that he or she could understand the act and know it was wrong.

Motions: Any time a party asks the judge for a legal ruling on a specific issue, it is called a "motion." There can be motions on many different issues. They can be specially scheduled in front of a judge, or if they relate directly to a trial, they usually will be heard at the start of the trial.

PROBATION

Probation is when a youth is given a set of conditions to follow by a judge and is assigned a juvenile probation counselor (JPC) who then works with the youth to make sure the youth is complying with these conditions. This is also referred to as supervision.

Conditions of Probation: Conditions of probation will vary from youth to youth depending on what the judge feels is appropriate. Common conditions of probation include attending school, obeying house rules, and avoiding illegal substances. Sometimes the judge will also order counseling or drug treatment, community service or restitution.



Role of the JPC: The probation counselor will meet with or talk on the phone with the youth and parent about twice a month. The probation counselor is also a resource for the youth and family and can assist with talking with teachers and counselors and participate in encouraging the youth's progress in other areas. While the probation counselor does have the ability to request a modification hearing if the youth is not complying with probation conditions, it is much better for all parties if behavior issues can be resolved without having to return to court. JPCs have specialized training to work effectively with youth and are committed to helping them successfully finish probation and learn to make better choices.

Role of the Parent: Parents are strongly encouraged to know the youth's conditions of probation and to attend all meetings with the probation counselor and the youth. The parent is an excellent source of information about how the youth is progressing or if the youth is struggling in certain areas. Many parents find it helpful to keep a log of youth behaviors that they can then share with the JPC at upcoming meetings. We present an example of the type of log you may want to keep as you go through this process. Writing this down will keep you from forgetting to share important information during the

meeting time. It is also important to record positive progress the youth is making, including achievements and good behavior (obeying rules, good grades or sport successes for example). If a youth runs away, however, you should let the JPC know right away. Also know that anything you say to the JPC can be used to file new charges or probation modifications against your child.

When keeping a log, it is helpful to keep track of any police incident report numbers or runaway incident numbers that may occur in relation to the youth's progress.

Probation Log: EXAMPLE

DATE	TIME	EVENT
8/24	12pm	School called to report "Jimmy" did not appear for classes the previous day. "Jimmy" told me it wasn't my business where he was.
8/25	10am	"Jimmy" apologized for his behavior and said he would go to school next Monday.
8/28	8am	"Jimmy" goes to school and attends all day.
9/2	1am	"Jimmy" not in by curfew. Call and text him to come home. "Jimmy" comes home at 1am and appears to be high.
9/3	9am	"Jimmy" asks me to not report the curfew violation, that he will not do it again. I asked about being high and he denies.
9/7	2pm	"Jimmy" attends anger management class assigned by court.
9/14	2pm	"Jimmy" attends anger management class.

COURT PROGRAMS

As part of the mission of the juvenile court to assist the youth's positive progress, the court has a number of programs that the youth may be eligible to receive. You can speak to the intake probation counselor during the court process about what programs may be open to the youth and your family.

Family Therapy: Family-based interventions for youth are some of the most well-studied and effective ways to support positive youth functioning. Sessions will often focus on the family's goals for improvement and assist the family in moving towards these goals. Depending on the type of treatment, counselors may come to the family's home to work with the family in their environment. Counselors may be specially trained juvenile probation counselors or other counselors in the community.



Anger Management: Youth may be referred to a time-limited anger management course that explores the triggers for angry outbursts as well as relaxation techniques and alternative ways of communicating.

Mentoring: Participating in a mentoring program can be a powerful experience for youth as it gives the youth someone to relate to outside of their family and current peer group. Mentors are often matched to a youth based on interests and needs.

Job Training: The court and detention both have job training programs that expose youth to different skills and industries which involve them in prosocial activities and build competencies.

School Support: School support programs focus on tutoring and academic intervention. These programs can be very useful for students who are having a difficult time remaining in class because of poor performance. Bonding and achievement in school are highly related to positive outcomes overall for youth.

COURT RESOURCES

King County Juvenile Court Contact Numbers	Phone
At-Risk-Youth/Truancy Information Line	206-205-3865
Juvenile Detention	206-205-9634
Juvenile Court Information	206-296-1395
Juvenile Court-Clerk's Office	206-296-9500
Juvenile Probation Office	206-205-9435
Juvenile Probation Screening	206-205-9595
Education Resource Information	206-205-9448
King County's Children's Crisis Outreach Response System (CCORS) - provides crisis services to children, youth and families in King County	206-461-3222
Partnership for Youth Justice - operates the diversion program for King County Juvenile Court	206-296-1131
Step-Up - provides services through court order or self referral for King County families of teens who have used violence in the home.	206-296-7841

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Listed below are several community resources that are available to assist your family.

Alcohol & Drug Helpline (www.adhl.org) - Statewide support available.	800-562-1240
A Village Project II (en.avillageproject.org) offers support, education, and guidance to youth and families who are at risk of becoming involved with one or more of Washington's child and family serving systems.	360-866-8512
C.H.A.D (www.chadd.org) - Resources for youth and adults with ADD/ADHD. Available throughout King County.	206-264-5521
Changes (www.cpsn.org)-support group for parents of acting-out adolescent. Available in Puget Sound area.	888-468-2620
Children's Home Society - family and children's support. Available in King County and select statewide areas. (www.childrenshomesociety.org)	206-854-0700
Community Information Line (www.crisisclinic.org) - provides information and referral assistance to people seeking help with community resources in King County.	Dial 211 or 206-461-3200
Consejo Counseling and Referral—provides family services to Latino communities state-wide. (www.consejocounseling.org)	206-461-4880
Friends of Youth-serving the Eastside, provides counseling, residential treatment, and substance abuse services.	425-869-6490
Harborview Sexual Assault Center/ Traumatic Stress - provides resources for physical or emotional crisis due to sexual assault or other traumatic event.	206-744-1600
Hopelink (www.hope-link.org) - serves homeless and low income families, children, seniors and people with disabilities throughout King County.	425-869-6000

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

King County Sexual Assault Resource Center & Crisis Line - provides therapy, legal advocacy, parent education, medical advocacy, and a 24 hour crisis and resource line.	425-226-7273 800-825-7273
Sound Mental Health (www.smh.org) - provides comprehensive mental health, chemical dependency and co-occurring integrated treatment at locations throughout King County.	206-302-2300
Team Child (www.teamchild.org) - assistance in accessing legal services for youth.	206-322-2444
Teen Link (www.866teenlink.org) - provides support line for teens throughout Washington.	206-461-4922
Therapeutic Health Services - rehabilitates individuals and help families affected by alcohol dependence, drug dependence and/or mental illness. Western Washington locations. (www.therapeutichealth.org)	206-322-7676
Valley Cities (www.valleycities.org) community behavioral health center in Auburn, Federal Way, Kent and Renton.	253-939.4055
WA-DADS (www.washingtondads.com)-serves all male caregivers and their families of children with special needs - mental health, behavioral, or emotional concerns, across Washington State.	Web only
Washington State Support Group Directory (www.counselingseattle.com) - for list of mental health support services state-wide.	Web only
Youthcare-The Shelter (www.youthcare.org) - provides shelter, hope and support to homeless and underserved youth in the Seattle Metro area.	206.694.4500
YWCA (www.ywcaworks.org) - provides resources for woman and families facing violence, discrimination, and poverty. Operates in King and Snohomish Counties.	206-461-4882

CROSSOVER YOUTH

Cross-over youth" refers to youths in the juvenile justice system who are also involved in the child welfare system . A youth involved in the child welfare system may be in the family home with court supervision, foster care, or group care. Being involved in both systems can be a big strain on youth, foster families and biological families as the youth will have multiple systems to navigate. This often means more meetings and appointments to attend. Foster parents may feel unsure about whether attending these meetings is their responsibility. We encourage foster parents, and biological parents when appropriate, to attend court hearings and provide information about the youth to the individuals at court. This will give the court a better sense of the youth's needs and will likely result in a better overall outcome.

In King County, efforts are underway to provide more integrated care between juvenile justice and child welfare staff. This includes:

- ◆ Finding out whether a justice -involved youth is also involved in the child welfare system,
- ◆ Setting up coordination meetings between juvenile probation and child welfare caseworkers to reduce unnecessary duplication in effort and time for the youth,
- ◆ Committing to ongoing communication between juvenile probation and child welfare regarding progress and housing status.



What you can do:

As a foster parent or youth involved with foster care, let the defense attorney and intake probation counselor know the youth is also involved in child welfare.

Ask the juvenile probation counselor, if the youth is placed on probation, whether they can schedule meetings to coincide with child welfare caseworker meetings if that would be of benefit to you.

GLOSSARY

Adjudication – A court decision, by the judge, that the youth is guilty of a charged offense.

Allegations – Something that a person says is the truth, but hasn't yet been proven (the offenses that the prosecutor accuses the child of committing are allegations until proven in court).

Arraignment – the first court hearing where the accused child is formally advised of the charges against them and of their rights (the accused person enters a plea of guilty or not guilty)

ART – Aggression Replacement Training. A King County program which has three one hour classes per week for ten weeks to improve decision-making skills, anger control and moral reasoning.

ASD – Alternatives to Secure Detention. Programs operated by Juvenile Detention, that are developed with the understanding that alternatives to secure detention ensure a youth's appearance at subsequent court hearings and minimizes the likelihood of new offenses while the youth is in the community.

Attorney – A trained legal professional licensed to represent people in court, also called a lawyer.

AVANZA – The Latino Stay in School Project, a summer internship program for truant Latino youth age 14-17 in the Highline School District.

BSFT – Brief Strategic Family Therapy. A problem-focused, practical approach to the elimination of substance abuse risk factors.

Building Bridges (OSPI) – A program for dropout retrieval and intervention services for Seattle School District dropouts and at risk youth ages 14-18.

Charge – The act that a child is formally accused of committing.

Conditional Release – Occurs when a respondent is released from court custody under supervision of a parent, social worker, or court service officer. There are usually specific condition to the release that if violated will return the youth to court custody.

Continuance – A postponement of a court hearing.

GLOSSARY

Counsel – Another name for an attorney.

Court-appointed counsel – An attorney who is appointed by the court

Crime – See Offense.

Criminal Information – The document filed by the State charging a juvenile with a crime.

Cross-examination – Questions asked of a witness by the attorney for

Curfew – When a child is required by law or court order to be at home

Custodian – The person who has the legal right to control what a child does and also the responsibility to meet a child's basic needs (parents, guardians, or the state can have custody of a child).

DAJD – King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention - Juvenile Division is responsible for the care and custody of youth who are detained in the Juvenile Detention Facility.

DBHR– Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, a division of DSHS that administers programs services to prevent and reduce substance misuse, mental illness and problem gambling.

DBT – Dialectical Behavioral Therapy. A treatment used to assist youth and family in learning skills aimed at enhancing capacity to monitor emotional state, control emotional arousal, tolerate distress, and interact with others in a more effective manner.

Decline hearing – The process of determining whether the case of a juvenile over the age of 16 with certain serious charges will be transferred to an adult criminal court, where they will be tried, and if convicted, sentenced as an adult.

Detention – A locked facility where children wait for their next court hearing or placement.

Disposition – The juvenile justice system's version of a court sentence (a judge decides the disposition at a hearing).

GLOSSARY

Diversion – When a juvenile is referred to juvenile court as a first or second time offender who has committed an offense such as shoplifting, malicious mischief, or possession of alcohol, the cases may be handled outside of the court process. This is usually handled through a community based juvenile accountability board.

DSHS-CA – Department of Social and Health Services-Children’s Administration, a state agency responsible for the welfare of children and youth in Washington State which provides a plan for services which support families and assure safety and well-being for children.

Due Process – Courts must follow a fair and just process; for example, they must give children notice of hearings and the right to present their side of an argument.

Evidence-Based Programs (EBP) – carefully studied treatment programs that have research that proves their effectiveness

Fact-finding Hearing – Also called a Trial. This is a hearing where the prosecutor and the youth’s defense attorney will question witnesses on the details of the crime of which the youth has been accused. The judge will decide, based on the law and the evidence presented, whether the youth is guilty or not guilty of the alleged offense.

Felony – An act or serious crime that carries the potential punishment of long term detention (less serious crimes are called misdemeanors).

First Appearance Hearing –A hearing held after the youth is brought into detention in which the judge decides whether the court has the authority, based on available evidence, to continue proceedings against the youth.

FIT – Family Integrated Transitions. An intensive, home-based family intervention for youth with substance use and mental illness.

FFT – Functional Family Therapy, a short-term family-based pre-

Guardian – An adult who has the legal right to make decisions about and care for a child. A guardian can be the child’s parent, family member, an unrelated adult, or the state.

GLOSSARY

Hearing – Court meetings that may take place in the court waiting room with the attorney or in a courtroom before a judge.

Interrogation – The questioning of a respondent, suspect or witness.

JPC – Juvenile Probation Counselor – a King County Juvenile Court professional whose duties include preparing reports for the court and supervising juveniles under the court's jurisdiction.

JRA – Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration is an Administration within DSHS that serves Washington State's highest-risk offender youth. Youth may be committed to JRA custody by any county juvenile court. The juvenile courts follow prescribed sentencing guidelines to determine which youth will be committed to JRA. These youth typically have committed many lower-level offenses or have committed a serious crime.

Jurisdiction – The court's power to hear and to decide a case against a child.

Juvenile – Any individual who is under the chronological age of eighteen years.

Juvenile Drug Court – Intensive substance abuse treatment and supervision with weekly hearings for 9-12 months.

Mentor Program – One-on-one outreach and support programs by trained mentors.

MTFC – Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care. A treatment for children in the foster care system with multiple familial and behavioral concerns.

Miranda Rights or Miranda Warnings – Warnings that are received when a child is arrested that advise him or her of the right to remain silent and the right to have a lawyer.

Misdemeanor – A criminal offense that is less serious than a felony.

MST – Multi-Systemic Therapy, a community-based treatment for children ages 12-17 with serious behavior disorders who are at risk of out-of-home placements.

Offense – An act that if committed by an adult would be considered a crime.

GLOSSARY

PathNet: Drop-Out Retrieval – A program for school engagement support, re-entry, and drop-out intervention in King County.

Plea bargain – When a child's lawyer and the prosecutor make a deal to resolve an offense charge; usually the child agrees to admit to plead guilty in exchange for a reduction in the number or severity of charges.

Predisposition Report – a report prepared by a probation officer for the Judge's consideration at the Disposition Hearing. This report includes a review of the juvenile's behavior and family history

Probation – Youth who are placed on probation by a judge are assessed by Juvenile Probation Counselors (JPC) to determine the level of supervision needed and to ensure that all conditions of a court order are followed and that appropriate services are provided to the youth and family.

Prosecution – The process of bringing a person to trial for criminal charges.

Prosecutor – A county attorney who charges a juvenile respondent with a crime and proceeds to obtain an adjudication.

Public Defender – An attorney appointed by the court to represent a juvenile respondent who is unable to hire an attorney.

Recidivating / Recidivism – Repeated criminal adjudications.

Reclaiming Futures – A community program used in King County Juvenile Courts with a six-step model that helps young people in trouble with drugs, alcohol, and crime.

Respondent – A youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court who is accused of violating any federal, state or municipal law.

Restitution – Payment to a victim by the respondent for damage or loss caused by the defendant.

Status Offender – A child who is charged with doing something that is only illegal for individuals under age 18, such as running away from home. Adults cannot be charged with status offenses.

Statute – A law that was adopted or passed by the state legislature.

GLOSSARY

Step Up – A group counseling program for youth in King County who are violent with family members. Youth and parent(s) attend. One group per week for 20 weeks.

Subpoena – A legal document requiring the person named in the subpoena to appear on a stated day and time at a specified court to give testimony in a case.

Tattoo Removal Program – Blink – Tattoo Removal – Laser Tattoo Removal Services. A volunteer program for court involved youth. It requires parental consent and proof of community service compliance.

Trial – See Fact-finding Hearing

Testimony – A statement or declaration made to establish a fact or facts and given under oath.

Truant – A child or youth with five unexcused absences from school in one month or 10 in a school year.

US Dept. of Labor Building Futures Project – A multiple partner program providing job skill training, pre-apprenticeship, school, support, and paid internships for 14-21 year olds that are either youth offenders or At-Risk.

US Dept. of Labor: Youth Re-Entry Grant LEAP Project – A program serving 14-21 year olds leaving detention. Services include pre-apprenticeships, jobs school support, re-entry, and drop-out intervention in King County.

Vest Program: Workforce Development – A program that gives employment preparation, career exploration, community services, and paid internships throughout King County. This is available for those on probation 15-18 years old.

Witness – A person having information that is relevant to an issue being decided by the court.

Witness Interviews – Informal interviews conducted by the prosecutor or defense attorney before the trial at which victims and witnesses are questioned about their knowledge of the crime(s).